

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 IO-14 /115 W

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R 271850Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 315

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 1857

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XT, SW, GW, AU

SUBJECT: GERMAN INTEREST IN IMPROVING US-SWEDISH RELATIONS

1. AT THE RECEPTION OFFERED BY PRESIDENT HEINEMANN AT THE ROYAL PALACE MARCH 26 ON THE OCCASION OF HIS STATE VISIT TO BELGIUM, PRESIDENT HEINEMANN AND STATE SECRETARY SPANGENBERG DISCUSSED WITH ME WEST GERMAN INTEREST IN IMPROVING US-SWEDISH RELATIONS. ALSO PRESENT WAS SPANGENBERG'S DEPUTY, CASPARI. SPANGENBERG TOLD ME THAT CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN EUROPE LENT SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE TO DEVELOPMENT OF US RELATIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER PALME AND HIS SWEDISH PARTY FELLOWS.

2. SPANGENBERG SAID THAT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO HELP ME WITH RESPECT TO MY MISSION TO SWEDEN. HE SAID HE HAD MET PALME WHEN THEY WERE BOTH STUDENT LEADERS AND THEY STILL KEPT IN CLOSE TOUCH. SPANGENBERG SAID PALME WAS THE MOST OUTSPOKENLY PRO-AMERICAN STUDENT LEADER IN EUROPE AT THE TIME THEY MET, AND HE FELT CERTAIN WE WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE IN RENEWING GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH SWEDEN. FOR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, HE SAID, THOSE RELATIONSHIPS WERE VERY IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRANDT AND PALME.

SPANGENBERG CONCLUDED BY SAYING HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE ME IN BONN, IF I WISHED, TO DISCUSS WHAT HE MIGHT DO TO HELP IMPROVE US-SWEDNISH RELATIONS.

3. I THANKED SPANGENBERG FOR HIS INTEREST AND OFFER TO HELP BUT NOTED THAT I WAS NOT YET CONFIRMED AS AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN.

4. CASPAIR, WHO REMAINED WITH ME BRIEFLY AFTERWARDS, SAID THAT SPANGENBERG WAS A VERY CLOSE FRIEND OF CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND HAD BEEN PLACED BY THE CHANCELLOR IN THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET. HE SAID ALSO THAT THE CHANCELLOR, PALME, AND AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY WERE CLOSE FRIENDS, AND THAT THE GERMAN SOCIALISTS HAD A STAKE IN US RELATIONS WITH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ELSEWHERE. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

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